

5

considered unnecessary for a complete understanding of this invention. The locking rib 84 is generally U-shaped in cross-section and includes a peripheral radially outwardly directed leg portion 85 joined to a shorter peripheral radially outwardly directed leg portion 86 by a radius or bight portion 87 which corresponds to the innermost rounded surface 35 of the rib 34 of the reclosure cap 5. The bight portion 87 seats within the groove 83 and contacts an upper downwardly facing peripheral surface 88 partially defining the groove 83.

The reclosure cap 55 is seated upon the lip L of the bottle B in the manner heretofore described in connection with the cap 5. That is, the reclosure cap 55 is first tilted and a peripheral edge portion thereof is placed about a lower peripheral portion P of the lip L. This positions the locking rib 84 in an annular groove G beneath the lip L while the lip L is temporarily received in the cavity 63. The force required to insert the lip L in the cavity 63 causes the gasket skirt 66 to temporarily deform in much the same manner as the gasket 14. The cap 55 is thereafter tilted and completely seated upon the lip L of the bottle B in the manner of the cap 5 shown in FIGURE 2. In this position the slightly conical surface 70 of the peripheral skirt 66 of the gasket 64 is seated upon the uppermost surface (unnumbered) of the bottle lip L and is generally deformed to a planar position substantially normal to the cap body axis. The shoulder 78 prevents the cap 55 from being dislodged from the lip L of the bottle B in the manner described with respect to the cap 5. In addition, as fluid pressure builds up in the interior of the bottle B the pressure escapes through the open mouth thereof and acts upon the exposed surface 68 of the gasket 64 to press the gasket against the lip L of the bottle B in proportion to the amount of pressure buildup in the bottle B. That is, as the pressure increases in the bottle B the forces applied against the surface 68 are increased to more firmly seat the surface 70 against the bottle lip L and vice versa. Thus, the higher the pressure in the bottle B the tighter the gasket 64 is seated against the lip L of the bottle B. Without the converging frusto-conical configuration of the surface 68, the gasket 64 would necessarily have to be actually thicker or more greatly loaded in shear to effect comparable sealing at both low and high pressures, and the gasket 64 would necessarily have to be loaded greater at low pressures in order to hold higher pressures within the bottle B. Thus, the construction of the gasket 64 permits the reclosure cap 55 to be applied to and removed from the bottle B with less force than the reclosure cap 5 which is not provided with the particular gasket 64.

While example disclosures of a bottle reclosure cap has been disclosed herein, it is to be understood that various modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of this invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A bottle reclosure cap comprising a cap body including an end wall and a depending peripheral skirt, said peripheral skirt having an inner wall defining an internal cavity adapted to receive therein a bottle lip, an inwardly directed fixed peripheral locking rib of a predetermined diameter carried by said skirt spaced from said end wall, said locking rib being a separate element, means securing said locking rib to said skirt, a gasket in said cap body in spaced relation to said locking rib, and peripheral locating means above the locking rib having a diameter greater than the diameter of the locking rib but less than the diameter of the inner wall prior to the reclosure cap being fixedly attached to a bottle lip.

2. The reclosure cap of claim 1 wherein said gasket includes means for varying the sealing pressure of said gasket in dependence upon the internal pressure of a bottle upon which the cap is mounted.

6

3. The reclosure cap of claim 2 wherein said gasket includes a first surface converging inwardly and downwardly relative to the cap axis, said first surface defining said means for varying the sealing pressure of said gasket in dependence upon the internal pressure of a bottle upon which the cap is mounted, and said first surface terminating at an annular sealing surface in axial spaced relationship to said locking rib.

4. A bottle reclosure cap comprising a cap body including an end wall and a depending peripheral skirt of polymeric material, said peripheral skirt having an inner wall defining an internal cavity adapted to receive therein a bottle lip, an inwardly directed fixed peripheral locking rib of a predetermined diameter carried by said skirt spaced from said end wall, said peripheral locking rib being a separate metallic element, means securing said locking rib to said skirt, a gasket in said cap body in spaced relation to said locking rib, and a peripheral shoulder above the locking rib having a diameter greater than the diameter of the locking rib but less than the diameter of the inner wall prior to the reclosure cap being fixedly attached to a bottle lip.

5. A bottle reclosure cap comprising a cap body including an end wall and a depending peripheral skirt, said peripheral skirt having an inner peripheral wall defining an internal cavity adapted to receive therein a bottle lip, an inwardly directed fixed peripheral locking rib of a predetermined diameter carried by said skirt in spaced relationship to said end wall, said rib being relatively non-resilient but readily deformable, a gasket in said cap body in spaced relation to said rib, said gasket being constructed of resilient material, a peripheral shoulder above the locking rib having a diameter greater than the diameter of the locking rib but less than the diameter of the inner wall adapted to locate a bottle lip in the cavity and prevent side forces from dislodging said cap from a bottle, said peripheral skirt including a lower terminal edge portion, a radially inwardly opening groove in said edge portion and said locking rib being received in and confined by said groove.

6. The reclosure cap as defined in claim 5 wherein said peripheral skirt is constructed from polymeric material and said locking rib is constructed of metallic material.

7. A bottle reclosure cap comprising a cap body including an end wall and a depending peripheral skirt, said peripheral skirt having an inner peripheral wall defining an internal cavity adapted to receive therein a bottle lip, an inwardly directed fixed peripheral locking rib of a predetermined diameter carried by said skirt in spaced relationship to said end wall, said rib being relatively non-resilient but readily deformable, a gasket in said cap body in spaced relation to said rib, said gasket being constructed of resilient material, a peripheral shoulder above the locking rib having a diameter greater than the diameter of the locking rib but less than the diameter of the inner wall adapted to locate a bottle lip in the cavity and prevent side forces from dislodging said cap from a bottle, said peripheral skirt including an upper terminal edge portion, a radially inwardly opening groove in said upper edge portion, and said end wall being received in said latter groove.

8. The reclosure cap as defined in claim 7 wherein said peripheral skirt is constructed from polymeric material and said end wall is constructed from metallic material.

9. A bottle reclosure cap comprising a cap body including an end wall and a depending peripheral skirt of polymeric material, said peripheral skirt having an inner wall defining an internal cavity adapted to receive therein a bottle lip, an inwardly directed peripheral metallic locking rib carried by said skirt spaced from said end wall, a gasket in said cap body in spaced relation to said locking rib, a recess in said end wall above said cavity opening toward said cavity defining a chamber into which said gasket is temporarily deformed upon the ap-